

-(으)래요?

do you want to? / I'd rather

Asks what the listener feels like doing, or states what you feel like doing. Friendly and direct — which is exactly why it does not work upward.

How it attaches

Stem type	Form	Example
Ends in a vowel	-래요	가다 → 갈래요
Ends in a consonant	-을래요	먹다 → 먹을래요
Ends in ㄹ	-래요	만들다 → 만들래요
Asking the listener	question mark	같이 갈래요?
Your own preference	statement	저는 갈래요
To a superior	-(으)시겠어요?	가시겠어요?

Notes

As a question it puts the choice entirely with the listener: 같이 갈래요? (do you want to come?). As a statement it reports your own inclination: 저는 집에 갈래요 (I'd rather go home).

Both readings are limited to the first and second person. You cannot use it to describe what a third person wants; that needs -고 싶어 하다 or a guess form.

The register matters. -(으)래요 is casual-polite: fine with friends, colleagues, and people younger than you, but too blunt for a boss or a teacher. Upward, Korean uses -(으)시겠어요? or -(으)실래요? with the honorific inserted.

Examples

- 같이 영화 볼래요?**
Do you want to watch a film together?
- 커피 마실래요?**
Would you like some coffee?
- 저는 안 갈래요.**
I'd rather not go.
- 뭐 먹을래?**
What do you want to eat?
- 오늘은 좀 쉴래요.**
I think I'll rest today.
- 이거 한번 볼래요?**
Do you want to take a look at this?

Compared with

-(으)까요?

-(으)까요? asks what we should do; -(으)래요? asks what you want. The first assumes you are deciding together, the second hands the decision over.

같이 갈까요? (shall we go?) / 같이 갈래요? (do you want to come?)

-(으)게요

-(으)게요 commits; -(으)래요 merely prefers. Saying 갈래요 leaves you free to change your mind in a way 갈게요 does not.

저는 갈래요. (I'd rather go) / 저는 갈게요. (I'll go, then)

-고 싶다

-고 싶다 describes a desire; -(으)래요 announces a choice about to be acted on. In a restaurant, 먹을래요 orders and 먹고 싶어요 daydreams.

불고기 먹고 싶어요. (I feel like bulgogi) / 불고기 먹을래요. (I'll have the bulgogi)

Watch out

✗ 사장님, 커피 마실래요?

○ 사장님, 커피 드시겠어요?

-(으)래요 is too casual for someone senior. Use -(으)시겠어요? and switch 마시다 to its honorific 드시다.

✗ 저녁을 만들래요.

○ 저녁을 만들래요.

Stems ending in ㄹ take the short form, as with -(으)게요 and -(으)까요?

✗ 동생이 같이 갈래요.

○ 동생도 같이 가고 싶어 해요.

This ending only reports your own or the listener's will. A third person's wishes need 싶어 하다.